CHAPTER 5: A DIFFERENCE IN BUST SIZE

SFX: MENACING

I HATE THE IDEA OF BEING IN YOUR DEBT.
I CAN'T PAY YOU BACK RIGHT NOW, BUT I'LL WORK HARD SO THAT I CAN REPAY YOU LITTLE BY LITTLE.
I DID IT ALL FOR YOUR SAKE, MISA!
I PROMISE I WILL PAY YOU BACK EVERY LAST CENT!
I HAVE TO GET IT BACK!!
IN THAT CASE, I'LL KEEP THIS KEY AS COLLATERAL!
I can come and go whenever I want!
GET A REAL JOB!!
YOU'RE EMBARRASSING ME!!
BUT I'M GOOD AT FINDING THINGS!
YESTERDAY, I FOUND OVER 1000 YEN!
OOH!
SEARCHING THE GROUND NEAR VENDING MACHINES FOR COINS, PICKING UP STRAY PACHINKO BALLS... THINGS LIKE THAT.
DON'T ASK...
SPEAKING OF WORKING HARD... WHAT DO YOU DO FOR A LIVING, FATHER?

YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE EVEN YOUNGER THAN ME.
HOW ON EARTH ARE YOU ABLE TO PAY OFF A ONE MILLION YEN DEBT?
BY THE WAY, WHAT DO YOU DO FOR MONEY?
It's really embarrassing...
WELL, I MAKE A LITTLE MONEY HERE AND THERE...
BY THE WAY, FATHER...
SINCE YOU'VE GOT A KNACK FOR FINDING THINGS, I WANT TO ASK YOU SOMETHING...
DON'T DODGE THE QUESTION!
WHAT IS IT?
THE TRUTH IS, I AM ACTUALLY LOOKING FOR SOMETHING, TOO.
IF YOU COULD FIND IT FOR ME, I WOULD GLADLY PAY YOU.
I'LL GIVE YOU ONE MILLION YEN FOR IT.
WHAT DO YOU SAY?
ONE MILLION YEN!?

WAIT, WAIT, WAIT!! WHAT KIND OF FISHY STORY IS THIS?
ARE YOU TRYING TO TRICK US?
I'LL DO IT, ICHIRO!
YAY!
HOLD UP, DAD!
REMEMBER, IF SOMETHING SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE, IT PROBABLY IS!
DON'T WORRY, I'M NOT THAT EASY TO DECEIVE!
HAVE FAITH IN MY "SUZUKI EYE"!
OOOHHH... I AM YOUR FAITHFUL SERVANT, LORD ICHIRO!
STOP IT!!
You shouldn't trust this guy at all!
WAIT, SHOULDN'T YOU BE OFF TO SCHOOL, MISA? YOU'LL BE LATE IF YOU DON'T HURRY.
OH NO, IT'S AL-READY THAT LATE!?
LISTEN UP, DAD!
DON'T BELIEVE A WORD ICHIRO SAYS, OKAY?
AND YOU, STOP TRYING TO TRICK MY DAD!

I THOUGHT ALL HE WANTED TO DO WAS MESS AROUND AND MANIPULATE PEOPLE...
THEN ALL OF A SUDDEN, HE PAYS OFF LOANS OF WHO KNOWS HOW MANY MILLION YEN...
SERIOUSLY, WHAT THE HELL DOES THIS GUY WANT FROM ME...?
OH MAN... I NEVER ASKED FOR ANY OF THIS...
ALL I EVER WANTED WAS TO LIVE A NORMAL LIFE...
MISA!!

LET'S WALK TOGE-THER!

KEIKO!
GOOD MOR-NING!

SFX. FROZEN

ARE YOU SURE?
OH NO, I'M FINE!

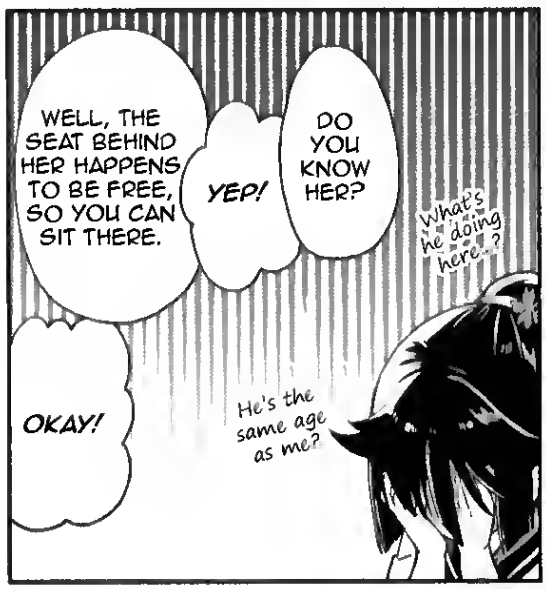
IS SOMETHING WRONG, MISA? YOU'RE ACTING KIND OF STRANGE.
SURE, LET'S GO!
AHHH...
NORMAL, EVERYDAY CONVERSATIONS LIKE THESE ARE JUST WHAT I NEED RIGHT NOW.

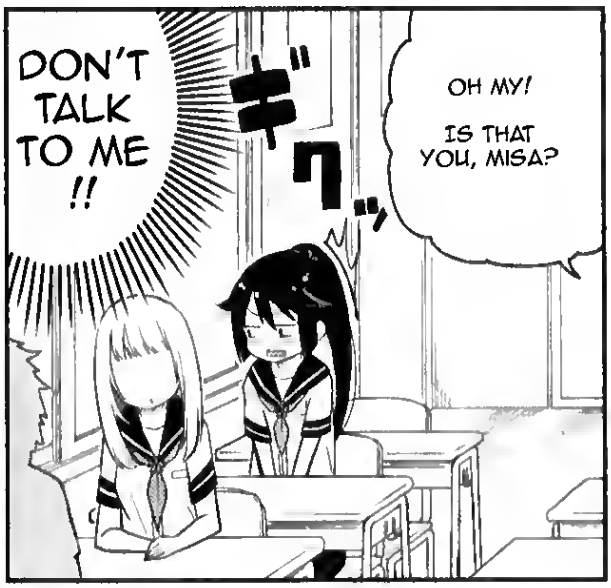
EH!?

LONG LIVE HIGH SCHOOL LIFE!!
THANKS!
BUT WE SHOULD HURRY, OR ELSE WE'LL BE LATE.
I'LL ASK YOU LATER, OKAY?
SURE!

WHAT IS IT? YOU CAN ASK ME ANYTHING!
HEY MISA, I WANT TO ASK YOU SOMETHING...

WE HAVE A NEW TRANSFER STUDENT.
PLEASE INTRODUCE YOURSELF.
鈴木一郎
I'M ICHIRO SUZUKI!
NICE TO MEET YOU!!


WELL, THE SEAT BEHIND HER HAPPENS TO BE FREE, SO YOU CAN SIT THERE.
YEP!
DO YOU KNOW HER?
What's he doing here...?
He's the same age as me?
OKAY!


DON'T TALK TO ME !!
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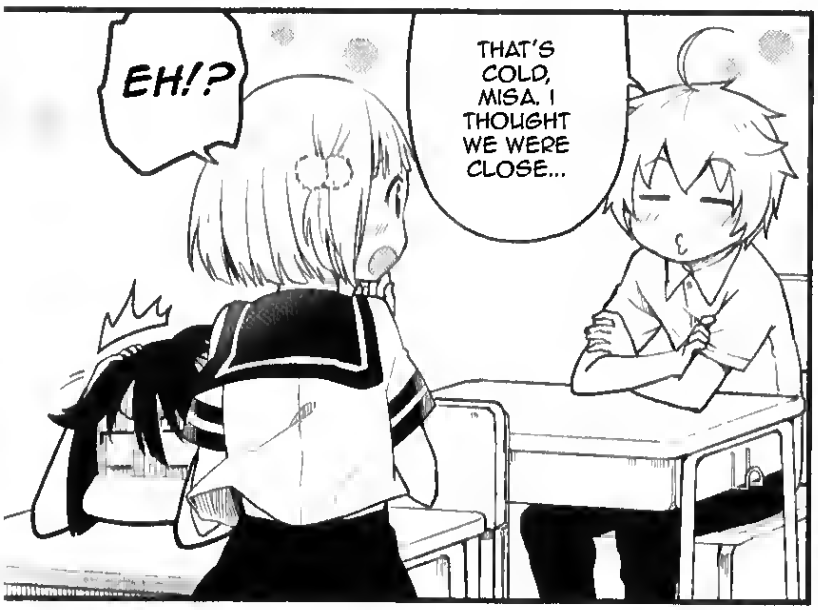
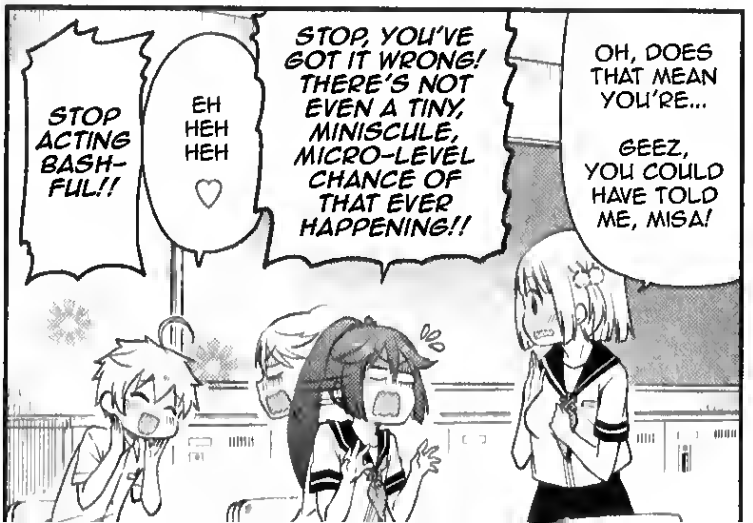
OH MY!
IS THAT YOU, MISA?

.....
MY PEACEFUL SCHOOL LIFE...
HOORAY! I GET TO SIT BEHIND MISA!!


EH!?
THAT'S COLD, MISA. I THOUGHT WE WERE CLOSE...

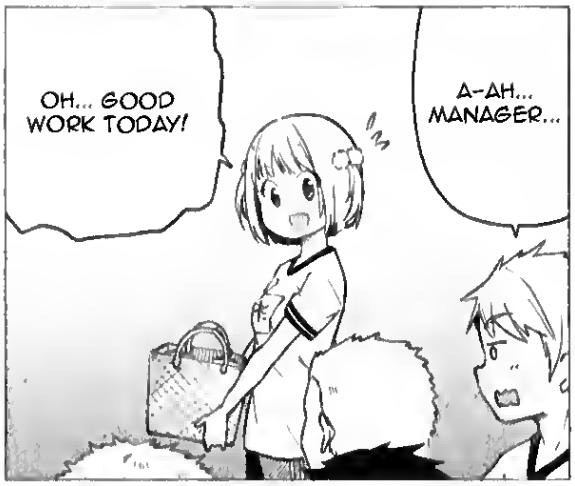
DON'T ASK ME PLEASE...
I DON'T WANT TO KNOW HIM...
DO YOU KNOW THAT TRANSFER STUDENT, MISA-CHAN?

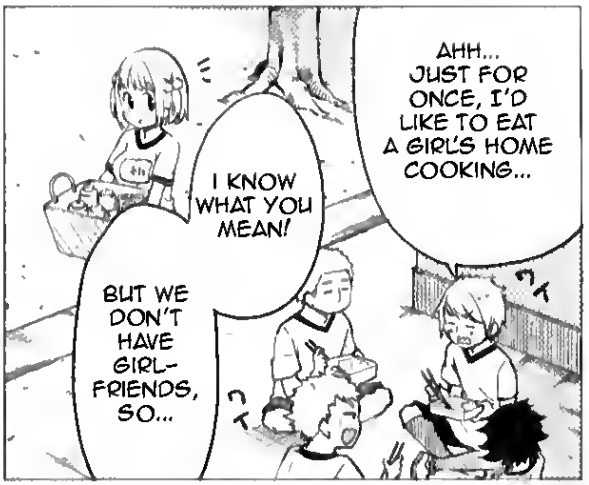
OH RIGHT, KEIKO!
WHAT DID YOU WANT TO ASK ME?
AH, RIGHT!

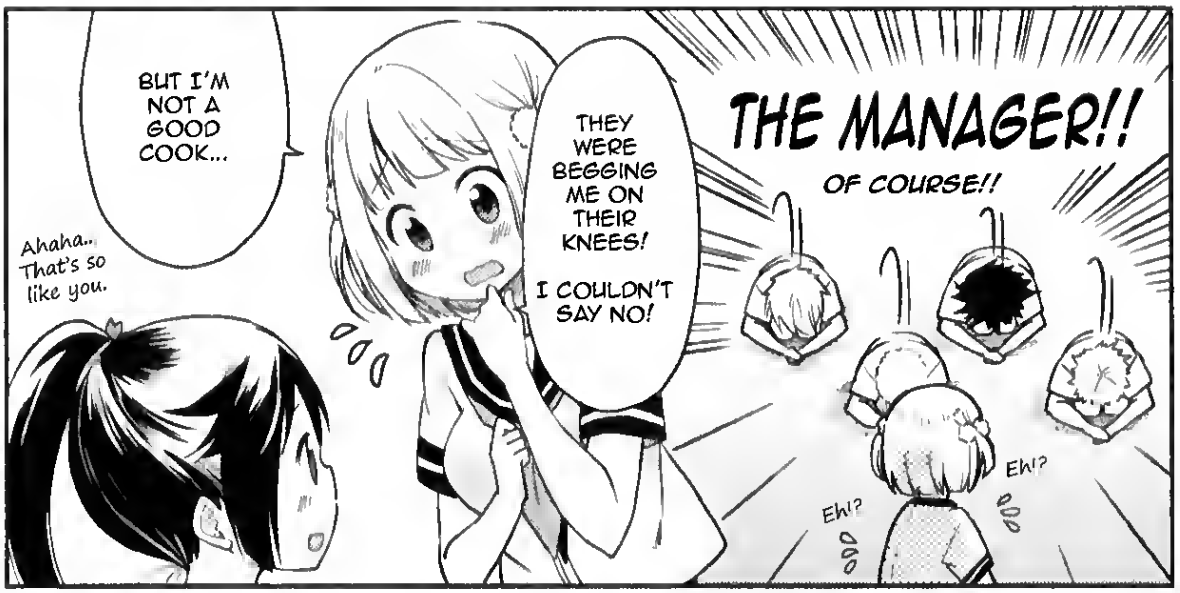

STOP ACTING BASHFUL!!
EH HEH HEH ♡
STOP, YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG! THERE'S NOT EVEN A TINY, MINISCULE, MICRO-LEVEL CHANCE OF THAT EVER HAPPENING!!
OH, DOES THAT MEAN YOU'RE...
GEEZ, YOU COULD HAVE TOLD ME, MISA!

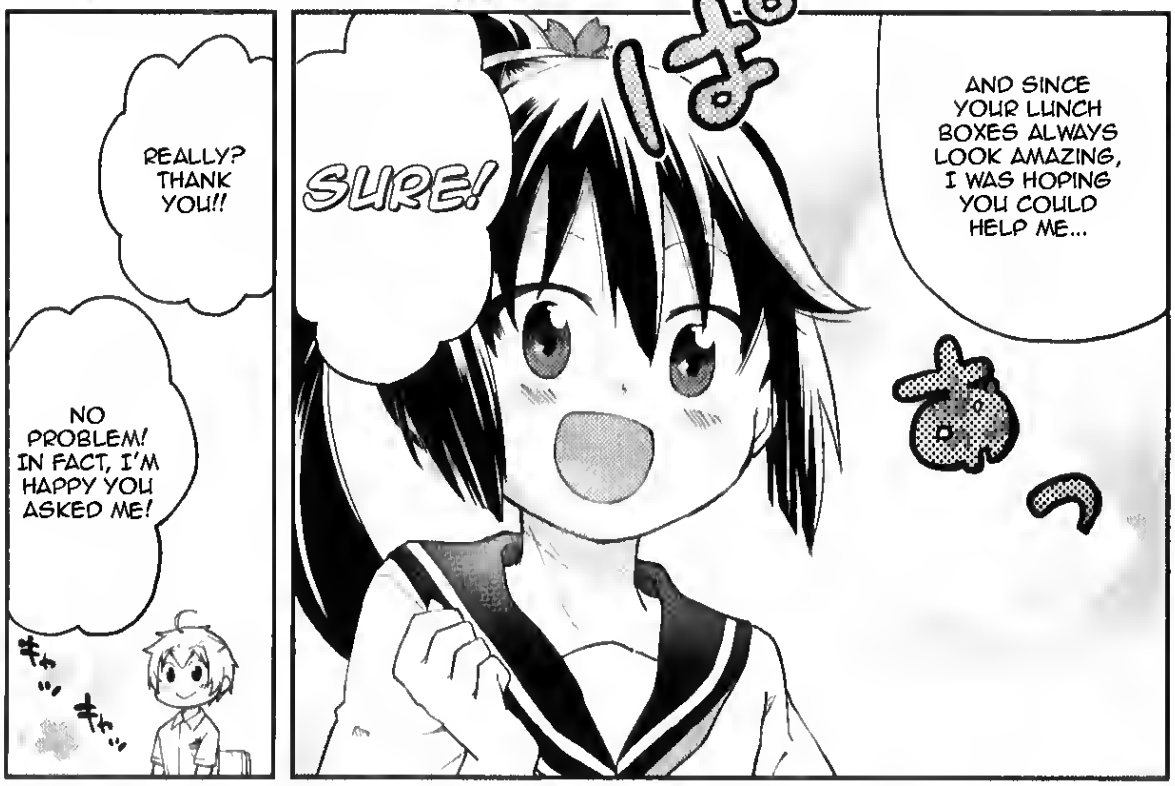
nod
nod
YOU KNOW I'M THE MANAGER OF THE SOCCER CLUB, RIGHT?
WELL, WE HAVE AN AWAY MATCH COMING UP, AND...

I WANT YOU TO HELP ME MAKE LUNCH BOXES, MISA!
HUH? LUNCH BOXES?


A-AH... MANAGER...
OH... GOOD WORK TODAY!


AHH... JUST FOR ONCE, I'D LIKE TO EAT A GIRL'S HOME COOKING...
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN!
BUT WE DON'T HAVE GIRL-FRIENDS, SO...


THE MANAGER!!
OF COURSE!!
THEY WERE BEGGING ME ON THEIR KNEES!
I COULDN'T SAY NO!
BUT I'M NOT A GOOD COOK...
Ahaha.. That's so like you.
Eh!?
Eh!?


REALLY? THANK YOU!!
NO PROBLEM! IN FACT, I'M HAPPY YOU ASKED ME!
キャッ キャッ
SURE!
AND SINCE YOUR LUNCH BOXES ALWAYS LOOK AMAZING, I WAS HOPING YOU COULD HELP ME...
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I CAN ALSO COOK NORMAL THINGS!!
YOU CAN SHOW THEM ALL YOUR SPECIAL BEANSPROUT TECHNIQUES!

AH!

Over here!
THERE ARE THIRTY CLUB MEMBERS, SO IT WILL BE A LOT OF WORK.
THAT'S WHY I ALREADY ASKED ONE OTHER PERSON TO HELP US OUT.

WHO IS THAT?
THAT'S NONOKA TAKAHASHI.
SHE'S IN OUR CLASS.
NONOKA-CHAN!!
GOOD CHOICE, KEIKO!
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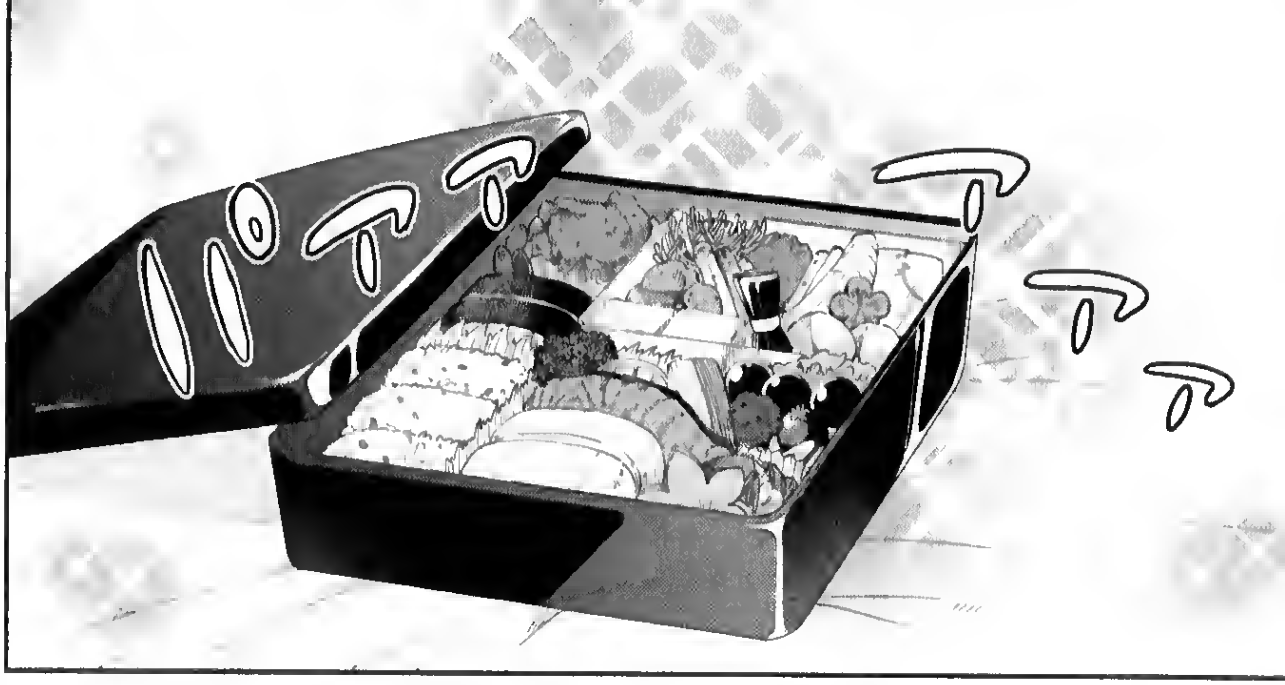
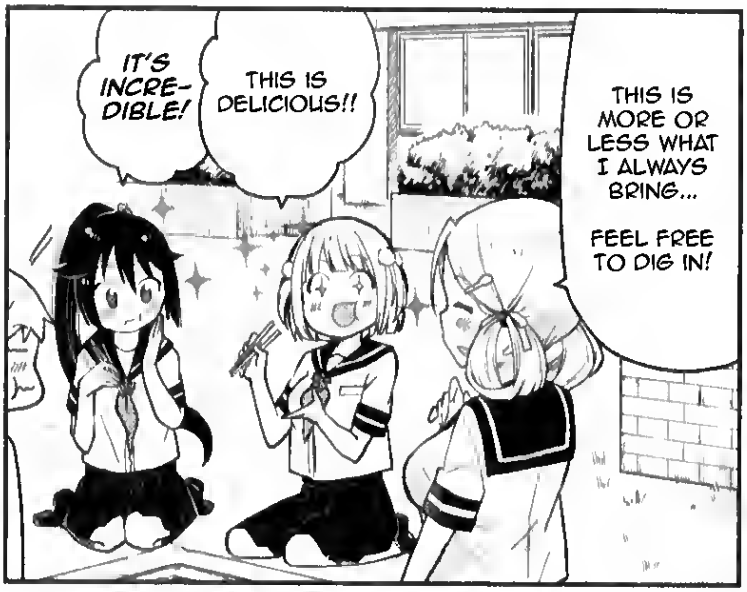
たぽん
THANK YOU, KEIKO-CHAN, MISA-CHAN!
DELICIOUS
It's just too good
IN COOKING CLASS, SHE ONCE MADE A THREE COURSE FRENCH MEAL SO DELICIOUS THAT THE TEACHER FAINTED!
MISS NONOKA'S HOME-MADE COOKING IS AMAZING!!
SHE'S KNOWN AT OUR SCHOOL AS THE BEAUTIFUL CHEF!
WOW!
SFX: *BOUNCE*

PLEASE STOP, YOU'LL EMBARRASS ME!
THAT'S INCREDIBLE!
MAYBE I LOOK LIKE SOMEONE YOU KNOW?
DON'T I KNOW YOU FROM SOME-WHERE...?
IS SOME-THING THE MATTER?
PLEASED TO MEET YOU!
I'M ICHIRO SUZUKI!
HMM?
.....
?
YOU CAN'T COME!
YEP!
ALRIGHT!
SURE!
LET'S GET TOGETHER DURING LUNCH TO MAKE PLANS, OKAY?



SFX: SHINE


IT'S INCRE-DIBLE!
THIS IS DELICIOUS!!
THIS IS MORE OR LESS WHAT I ALWAYS BRING...
FEEL FREE TO DIG IN!

IT'S NOT SUCH A BIG DEAL, REALLY...
WOW!! DID YOU REALLY MAKE ALL OF THIS, NONOKA-CHAN!?

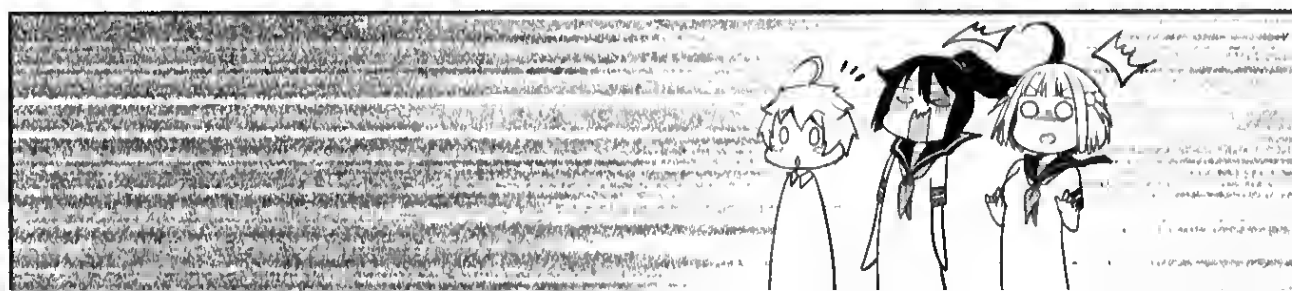
HOW WOULD YOU KNOW!?
And who said you could eat that!?
Luxury is the enemy!
THE WAY YOU MASK THE BLAND TASTE... IT REMINDS ME OF WAR-TIME JAPAN...
ほろり
SFX: SENTIMENTAL

YOU'RE A GOOD COOK TOO, MISA! ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING YOUR LIMITED BUDGET.
I HAD HEARD THE RUMORS, BUT THEY ARE TRUE.
YOU'RE A GREAT COOK, NONOKA!
This is great!

HER FEMININE APPEAL IS THROUGH THE ROOF!!
きゅんっ
I BROUGHT SOME HOME-MADE TEA TOO, I HOPE YOU'LL LIKE IT.
She even brought paper cups
SFX. POURING
SUCH A WELL-ROUNDED SCENT, NOT TO MENTION THE FULL-BODIED TASTE!
THIS TEA IS GREAT!!
THIS RICH TASTE IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM YOUR COOKING, MISA!
SFX: *BOING*
IT'S ALMOST LIKE...
SFX: ~FLAT~
...THE DIFFERENCE IN COOKING REFLECTS THE DIFFERENCE IN BUST SIZE!

WHY YOU ...
SERIOUSLY, DO YOU HAVE NO MANNERS AT ALL?
YOU'RE DISGUSTING!!
YOU'VE ONLY JUST MET NONOKA!!
STOP SEXUALLY HARASSING HER!!
RIGHT, NONOKA!?

SFX: IRRITATED



EXCUSE ME, I HAVE TO GO TO THE BATHROOM.
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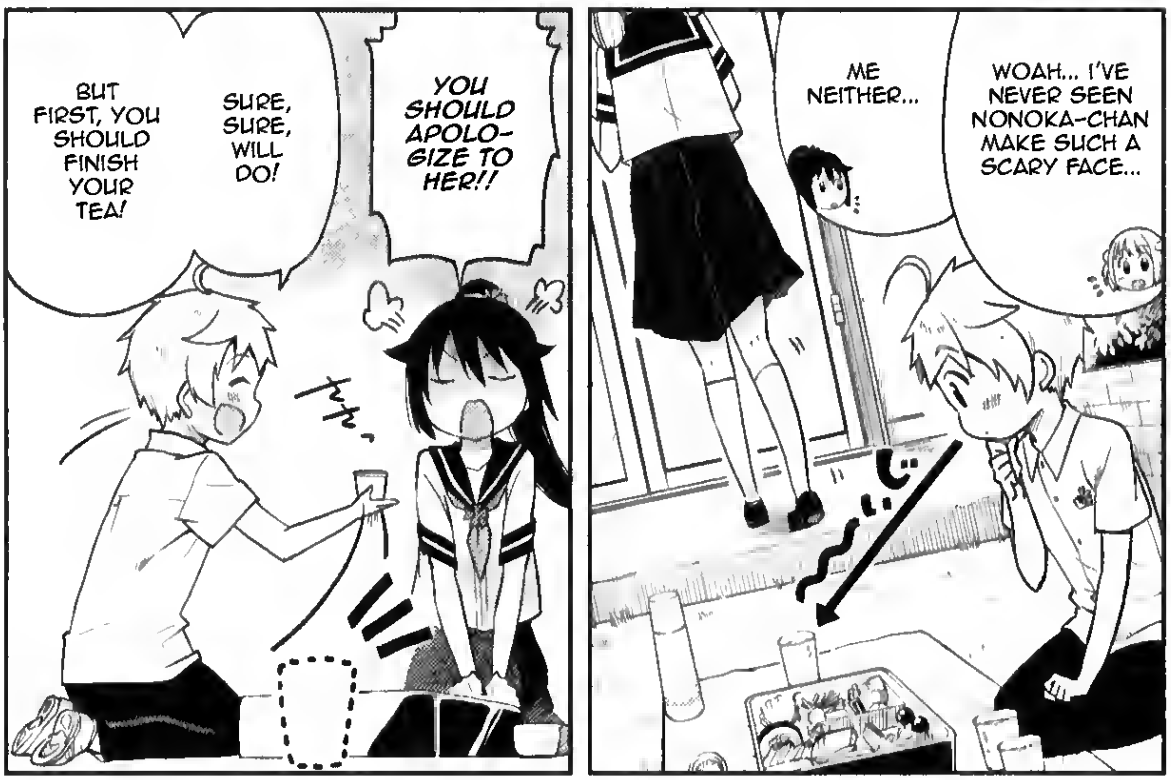
AHAHA, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
I'M JUST A BIT UN-COMFORT-ABLE WITH THOSE KINDS OF TOPICS, THAT'S ALL.
AH

SFX: DRIP


YOU SHOULD APOLO-GIZE TO HER!!
SURE, SURE, WILL DO!
BUT FIRST, YOU SHOULD FINISH YOUR TEA!
WOAH... I'VE NEVER SEEN NONOKA-CHAN MAKE SUCH A SCARY FACE...
ME NEITHER...

REALLY NOW...

SPICY!!
OH MY, WHAT'S WRONG, MISA?
Are you okay?

WHAT DID YOU PUT IN THIS TEA!?
Habanero peppers!?
COME ON NOW...
I DIDN'T DO ANY-THING.
YOU'RE LYING!!
You're the one who gave me that cup!
I'M TELLING YOU THE TRUTH~!